

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from the Bittkau Engineer Training Area 25X1A

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED 25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 15 September 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1X

1. At 6 a.m. on 31 July 1952, an engineer unit consisting of 4 officers and 82 BM was engaged in an engineer exercise at the training site near Bittkau (M 53/T 83) on the Elbe River near Polte. The troops constructed a pontoon bridge across the Elbe River. The connected pontoons were lowered in to the water by two motorboats which came from Tangerhütte. On the morning of 1 August about 50 percent of the bridge was completed. At noon on 2 August the bridge was completed. The bridge was subsequently dismantled, without having been used. The bridge construction material was then hauled away. Contrary to a previous practice, no material was left at the training site.

2. On the morning of 7 August, trucks hauled construction material, bridge building equipment and 30 pontoons from the camp near Polte to the Tangerhütte railroad station. On 8 August, this equipment was loaded on a train of 82 axles which departed toward Stendal. In addition to the materiel mentioned, trucks, and 4 small and 1 large amphibious cars were loaded on the train. Motor vehicles observed in traffic between Polte and Grieben

3. On 26 July, 20 pontoons, planks, boards and entrenching tools were stored near a tent which was guarded by a sentry with black-bordered black epauletts with engineer insignia and situated on the Elbwiesen near Polte. Piles projecting about 1 meter above the water and with two piles each connected with planks about 4 to 5 meters long, had been driven at three places near the bank of the river. Trucks were identified on the bank. On 26 July, the camp in the woods north of Polte was occupied. No details could be obtained as the area was cordoned off. Truck drove to the camp. Other motor vehicles observed on the road from Bittkau to Tangerhütte

4. On 4 August, 15 pontoons, guarded by a sentry, were seen on the bank of the Elbe River 300 meters southeast of Polte. A double row of piles, with two piles each of

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